



CHESTER J. CULVER
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PATTY JUDGE
LT. GOVERNOR

August 20, 2010

Secretary Raymond H. LaHood
Secretary of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Iowa DOT TIGER II Discretionary Grant request for the U.S. 34 Missouri River Connector Project

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am pleased to express my support for the Iowa Department of Transportation's (DOT) application for TIGER II funding for the U.S. 34 Missouri River Connector Project. The Iowa DOT is submitting this application in cooperation with the Nebraska Department of Roads. The project would connect Interstate 29 (I-29) in Iowa with U.S. 75 in Nebraska by realigning U.S. 34 along a new, more direct Missouri River crossing. The project also includes upgrading an interchange on I-29. These improvements would contribute to a new transportation corridor between Iowa and Nebraska, solving existing transportation projects while also contributing to new development and job growth opportunities by improving vital transportation linkages.

The project is included in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and the 2010-2014 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program.

I encourage your full consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

Chester J. Culver
Governor of Iowa

cc: Nancy Richardson, DOT



Iowa Department of Transportation

800 Lincoln Way, Ames, Iowa 50010

515-239-1111

FAX: 515-239-1120

August 13, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary
U.S. of the Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

RE: Iowa DOT TIGER II Discretionary Grant request for the U.S. 34 Missouri River
Connector Project

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I respectfully request your consideration of the Iowa Department of Transportation's (DOT) application for TIGER II funding for the U.S. 34 Missouri River Connector Project. The Iowa DOT is submitting this application in cooperation with the Nebraska Department of Roads. The project would connect Interstate 29 (I-29) in Iowa with U.S. 75 in Nebraska by realigning U.S. 34 along a new, more direct Missouri River crossing. The project also includes upgrading an interchange on I-29. These improvements would contribute to a new transportation corridor between Iowa and Nebraska, solving existing transportation problems while also contributing to new development and job growth opportunities by improving vital transportation linkages.

The project is included in the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) and the 2010-2014 Iowa Transportation Improvement Program.

Should you have any questions or need additional information about this project, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Nancy J. Richardson
Director

NJR:ckw

cc: Monty W. Fredrickson, Director, Nebraska Department of Roads

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1502

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
APPROPRIATIONS
HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS
SMALL BUSINESS

August 19, 2010

Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re. Iowa DOT TIGER II grant request for the U.S. 34 Missouri River Connector Project

Dear Secretary LaHood,

I am writing to express my support for the Iowa Department of Transportation's (Iowa DOT) application for TIGER II grant funding to support the U.S. 34 Missouri River Connector Project. The Iowa DOT is submitting this application in cooperation with the Nebraska Department of Roads.

The project would connect I-29 in Iowa with U.S. 75 in Nebraska by realigning U.S. 34 along a new, more direct Missouri River crossing. The project also includes upgrading an interchange on I-29. These improvements would contribute to a new transportation corridor between Iowa and Nebraska, solving existing transportation problems while also contributing to new development and job growth opportunities by improving vital transportation linkages.

For these reasons, I support this project and respectfully encourage your full consideration of the application.

Sincerely,



Tom Harkin
United States Senator

TH/jnm

REPLY TO:

- ☐ 135 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1501
(202) 224-3744
e-mail: grassley.senate.gov/contact.cfm
- ☐ 721 FEDERAL BUILDING
210 WALNUT STREET
DES MOINES, IA 50309-2140
(515) 288-1145
- ☐ 150 1ST AVENUE NE
SUITE 325
CEDAR RAPIDS, IA 52401
(319) 363-6832

United States Senate

CHARLES E. GRASSLEY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1501

August 4, 2009

REPLY TO:

- ☐ 103 FEDERAL COURTHOUSE BUILDING
320 6TH STREET
SIOUX CITY, IA 51101-1244
(712) 233-1860
- ☐ 210 WATERLOO BUILDING
531 COMMERCIAL STREET
WATERLOO, IA 50701-5497
(319) 232-6657
- ☐ 131 WEST 3RD STREET
SUITE 180
DAVENPORT, IA 52801-1419
(563) 322-4331
- ☐ 307 FEDERAL BUILDING
8 SOUTH 6TH STREET
COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA 51501-4204
(712) 322-7103

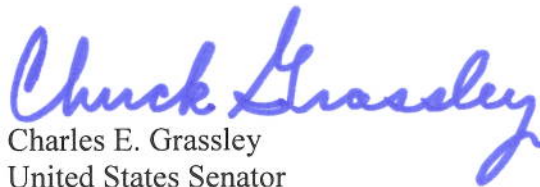
Ms. Nancy J. Richardson
Director
Iowa Department of Transportation
800 Lincoln Way
Ames, Iowa 50010

Dear Ms. Richardson:

I have contacted the U.S. Department of Transportation expressing my support for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grant application submitted jointly by the Nebraska Department of Roads and the Iowa Department of Transportation for the Sarpy/Mills Missouri River Crossing. I asked that it be given all due consideration. When I receive a response from the U.S. Department of Transportation, I will relay the necessary information to you.

Thank you for allowing me to be of assistance to you. If you have any further questions regarding this, or any other federal matter, please do not hesitate to contact me again.

Sincerely,


Charles E. Grassley
United States Senator

CEG/sk

RANKING MEMBER,
FINANCE

Committee Assignments:

BUDGET
JUDICIARY
AGRICULTURE

Co-CHAIRMAN,
INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS
CONTROL CAUCUS

United States Senate

August 17, 2010



Mr. Monty W. Fredrickson
Director
Nebraska Department of Roads
PO Box 94759
Lincoln, NE 68509-4759

Dear Director Fredrickson:

I am writing regarding the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER II) discretionary grant joint application filed by the State of Nebraska and the State of Iowa.

The grant is sought to fund the construction of the Bellevue Bridge over the Missouri River on US Highway 34.

I have been a supporter of this project for many years. The long-term economic benefits this project would provide are of vital importance to the State of Nebraska.

I support the State of Nebraska's application for a TIGER II discretionary grant.

Sincerely,

E. Benjamin Nelson
United States Senator

EBN:hcb

MIKE JOHANNNS
NEBRASKA

404 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-4224
(202) 228-0436 FAX
(202) 228-4285 TTY

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 23, 2010

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION AND
FORESTRY

BANKING, HOUSING AND
URBAN AFFAIRS

COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND
TRANSPORTATION

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. Victor Mendez
Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Mendez:

I am writing to express my support for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery grant application submitted jointly by the Nebraska Department of Roads and the Iowa Department of Transportation.

The Nebraska Department of Roads and the Iowa Department of Transportation will use this grant to fund Construction of the Bellevue Bridge over the Missouri River on US Highway 34. This project is important to Nebraskans and should provide long-term economic benefits.

The Nebraska Department of Roads and the Iowa Department of Transportation should be commended for their efforts to make significant improvements to infrastructure while helping to alleviate safety concerns for the traveling public. Please feel free to contact me or Lindsay Murray in my Omaha office at 402-758-8981 if you have questions as you review this application.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mike Johanns
United States Senator

LINCOLN OFFICE
294 FEDERAL BUILDING
100 CENTENNIAL MALL NORTH
LINCOLN, NE 68508
(402) 476-1400
FAX: (402) 476-0605

OMAHA OFFICE
9900 NICHOLAS STREET
SUITE 325
OMAHA, NE 68114
(402) 758-8981
FAX: (402) 758-9165

KEARNEY OFFICE
4111 FOURTH AVENUE
SUITE 26
KEARNEY, NE 68845
(308) 236-7602
FAX: (308) 236-7473

SCOTTSBLUFF OFFICE
115 RAILWAY STREET
SUITE C102
SCOTTSBLUFF, NE 69361
(308) 632-6032
FAX: (308) 632-6295

LEE TERRY
NEBRASKA, 2ND DISTRICT



WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1524 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4155

DISTRICT OFFICE:
11717 BURT STREET, SUITE 106
OMAHA, NE 68154
(402) 397-9944
Talk2Lee@mail.house.gov
www.house.gov/terry

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

COMMERCE, TRADE AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION

ENVIRONMENT AND HAZARDOUS
MATERIALS

TELECOMMUNICATIONS
AND THE INTERNET

REPUBLICAN DEPUTY WHIP

REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE

REPUBLICAN STEERING COMMITTEE

August 18, 2010

Mr. Monty W. Fredrickson
Director - State Engineer
Nebraska Department of Roads
PO Box 94759
Lincoln, NE 68509


Dear Mr. Fredrickson:

Please accept my strongest support for the Nebraska Department of Roads' grant application to the U.S. Department of Transportation for funding under the TIGER II Discretionary Grant Program for the Bellevue Bridge over the Missouri River on US Highway 34.

It is my belief that this project will have significant long-term beneficial impacts and be a strong catalyst for job creation and economic growth. If funded it would facilitate in the long-term economic productivity of the area by providing more efficiency in the movement of people and commerce. In addition it will improve existing transportation choices by enhancing points of modal connectivity and potentially alleviate growing heavy traffic congestion in the Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA MSA.

I encourage the U.S. Department of Transportation to give the Nebraska Department of Roads' application all due consideration under the law.

Sincerely,



LEE TERRY
Member of Congress

cc: Governor Dave Heineman

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1505

August 12, 2010

Secretary Ray LaHood
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

COMMITTEES:

AGRICULTURE

JUDICIARY

POLICY

SMALL BUSINESS

Re: Iowa DOT TIGER II grant request for the U.S. Hwy 34 Missouri River Connector Project

Dear Secretary LaHood,

I am writing to express my support of the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) application for TIGER II grant funding for the U.S. Hwy 34 Missouri River Connector Project. The IDOT is submitting this application in cooperation with the Nebraska Department of Roads.

According to IDOT officials, the project will connect Iowa Interstate 29 with U.S. Hwy 75 in Nebraska by realigning U.S. Hwy 34 along a new, more direct Missouri River crossing. I have been informed that the project also includes upgrading an interchange on Interstate 29 which will contribute to a new transportation corridor between Iowa and Nebraska and will resolve existing transportation problems. These changes will advance new development and job growth and improve vital transportation linkages, according to IDOT officials.

I urge your full and fair consideration of this application. If I can be of further assistance, please feel free to call my Sioux City, Iowa office at (712) 224-4692.

For more information about the grant request, please contact Dan Franklin, IDOT Office of Policy and Legislative Services at (515) 239-1131 or at dan.franklin@dot.iowa.gov.

I appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

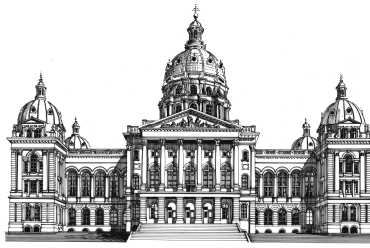


Steve King
Member of Congress

SK\sh

HUBERT HOUSER
STATE SENATOR
Forty-ninth District
Statehouse: (515) 281-3371
hubert.houser@legis.state.ia.us

—
HOME ADDRESS
34697 Beechnut Road
Carson, Iowa 51525-4069
Home: (712) 486-2597



The Iowa Senate
Eighty-third General Assembly
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
515-281-3371

COMMITTEES

Ways and Means
Local Government
Economic Growth
Rebuild Iowa
Labor and Business Relations
Agriculture and Natural Resources
Appropriations Subcommittee

August 13, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary of the Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re. Iowa DOT TIGER II grant request for the U.S. 34 Missouri River Connector Project

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to express my support for the Iowa Department of Transportation's application for TIGER II grant funding to support the U.S. 34 Missouri River Connector Project. The Iowa DOT is submitting this application in cooperation with the Nebraska Department of Roads.

The project would connect I-29 in Iowa with U.S. 75 in Nebraska by realigning U.S. 34 along a new, more direct Missouri River crossing. The project also includes upgrading an interchange on I-29. These improvements would contribute to a new transportation corridor between Iowa and Nebraska, solving existing transportation problems while also contributing to new development and job growth opportunities by improving vital transportation linkages.

For these reasons, I support this project and respectfully encourage your full consideration of the application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hubert Houser".

Senator Hubert Houser

Nebraska State Legislature

SENATOR SCOTT PRICE

District 3
13702 South 28th Circle
Bellevue, Nebraska 68123
(402) 293-2388

Legislative Address:
State Capitol
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4604
(402) 471-2627
sprice@leg.ne.gov



COMMITTEES

Agriculture
General Affairs
Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Intergovernmental Cooperation

August 16, 2010

Mr. Monty W. Fredrickson, P.E.
Director & State Engineer
Nebraska Department of Roads
P.O. Box 94759
Lincoln, NE 68509

Director Fredrickson,

I am writing to you to express my support for a "Tiger II Discretionary Grant" for the US Highway 34 Bridge over the Missouri River in Sarpy County, Nebraska. The grant will furnish additional funding support for this important project which I understand is jointly sponsored and funded by the states of Nebraska and Iowa.

This project is critical to public safety as well as to economic competitiveness for the region. I would ask that you give this application your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Price". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "S" and a trailing flourish.

Senator Scott Price
District 3

Nebraska State Legislature

SENATOR ABBIE CORNETT

District 45
504 Ridgewood Drive North
Bellevue, Nebraska 68005
(402) 733-4300

Legislative Address:
State Capitol
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4604
(402) 471-2615
acornett@leg.ne.gov



COMMITTEES

Chairperson - Revenue
Education
Committee on Committees
Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact

August 16, 2010

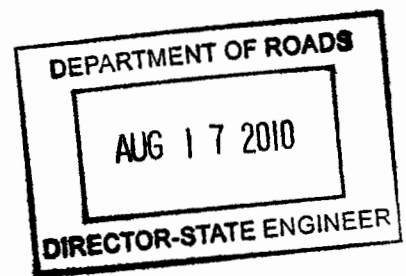
To Whom It May Concern:

I write to you today in order to express my support for the Nebraska and Iowa joint application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER II) Discretionary Grant Program in regards to the US Highway 34 Missouri River Bridge project (Bellevue Bridge). I believe that by partnering with our neighbor state of Iowa this will benefit the region as a whole. The corridor created by the bridge will open up property in southern Sarpy county for economic and community development and serve as a conduit into the metropolitan area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Abbie Cornett", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Senator Abbie Cornett



Nebraska State Legislature

SENATOR DAVE PANKONIN

District 2
PO Box 106
Louisville, Nebraska 68037
(402) 234-7685

Legislative Address:
State Capitol
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4604
(402) 471-2613
dpankonin@leg.ne.gov



COMMITTEES

Chairperson - Nebraska Retirement Systems
Vice Chairperson - Health and Human
Services
Banking, Commerce and Insurance
Committee on Committees

August 13, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Dept. of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing to support the Nebraska Department of Roads' joint application with the state of Iowa for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER II) Discretionary Grant Program. This grant will provide funding for the Highway 34 Missouri River Bridge Project. Completion of this project will create much needed and long-awaited economic development in eastern Nebraska and southwestern Iowa.

My legislative district includes the southern part of Sarpy County and almost all of Cass County in Nebraska. The economic development organizations in these counties have worked long and hard with the Nebraska and Iowa Departments of Roads to complete this regional transportation project. The TIGER II Grant funds will be used to improve connectivity and fulfill transportation needs of the region by providing a safe and free-flowing connection across the Missouri River. The improved structures will provide for traffic service to the major employment centers in eastern Nebraska and southwestern Iowa.

It is my understanding that the TIGER II Grant's intended use is for enhancement of economic development opportunities. If this understanding is correct, the joint Nebraska/Iowa project for the Highway 34 Missouri River Bridge is a highly qualified candidate.

I respectfully ask for your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dave Pankonin".

Senator Dave Pankonin
District 2

JEFF FORTENBERRY
1ST DISTRICT, NEBRASKA

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT AND
GOVERNMENT REFORM



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

August 10, 2009

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1535 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE
BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4806

LINCOLN OFFICE:
301 SOUTH 13TH STREET
SUITE 100
LINCOLN, NE 68508
(402) 438-1598

FREMONT OFFICE:
629 NORTH BROAD STREET
FREMONT, NE 68025
(402) 727-0888

NORFOLK OFFICE:
McMILL BUILDING
125 SOUTH 4TH STREET
NORFOLK, NE 68701
(402) 379-2064

www.house.gov/fortenberry

Mr. Monty W. Fredrickson
Nebraska Department of Roads
1500 Highway 2
P.O. Box 94759
Lincoln, NE 68509-4759

Re: TIGER Discretionary Grant Program

To Whom It May Concern:

Recently the State of Nebraska submitted applications for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grant Program.

Given the critical importance of these projects to public safety and economic opportunity in the State of Nebraska, I am writing to encourage the consideration of the projects as one request.

Upon their review, I am hopeful that the applications of the State of Nebraska will receive the appropriate attention based on the requirements laid out in the TIGER program.

Sincerely,

Jeff Fortenberry
Member of Congress

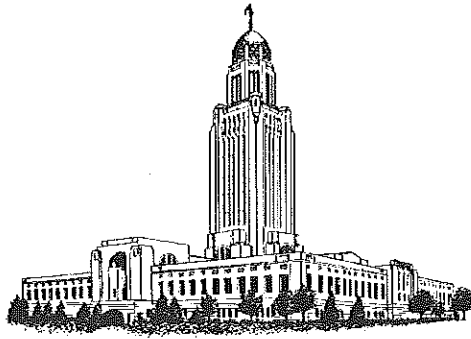


Nebraska State Legislature

SENATOR TIM GAY

District 14
1001 Hogan Drive
Papillion, Nebraska 68046

Legislative Address:
State Capitol
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4604
(402) 471-2730



COMMITTEES

Chairperson - Health and Human Services
Transportation and Telecommunications

August 4, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

Please accept this letter of support for the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) and the Iowa Department of Transportation's (IDOT) application for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery grants, made possible by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. As a member of the Nebraska Legislature's Transportation Committee, I realize the importance of a safe and functional transportation system for the continued vitality of a region. I am also aware that current economic conditions make prioritization of transportation projects necessary. The project to be funded by the TIGER grants is one of great importance to the Midwest and this application should be seriously considered.

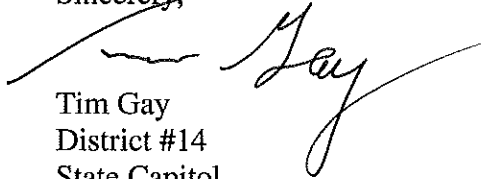
The proposed project is a collaborative effort by NDOR and IDOT. Construction of a new transportation corridor, which would include a bridge across the Missouri River, would provide a connection between the two states in an area that is growing rapidly. I am a resident of Sarpy County, Nebraska and can personally attest to the urgent need to update the transportation infrastructure to allow free flow traffic between U.S. 75 and I-29, to relieve congestion, and to accommodate the planned growth of the southern Omaha metropolitan area.

Without a doubt, Nebraska and Iowa's economy would benefit in the short term as construction of the corridor would create immediate job opportunities for residents of both states. However, the project would also provide long-term benefits for both states and the entire United States as this region of the country is prime for economic development. The project area's central location, its proximity to rail service, the river and the interstate

system and the availability of a skilled and educated workforce make it an ideal location for the expansion of existing businesses and the creation of new businesses.

This joint-effort project would ensure a safe and functional transportation system, would stimulate job creation and would contribute to the economic recovery of the region and the country. I believe the positive outcomes from this regional project reflect the intention of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and I respectfully ask that you give this application for TIGER grants favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Gay", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Tim Gay
District #14
State Capitol
Lincoln, NE 68509

TG:lj



City of Glenwood
107 South Locust Street
Glenwood, Iowa 51534-1725

DYLE DOWNING
MAYOR
city.hall@mchsi.com
City: 712-527-4717
dyledown@mchsi.com
Home: 712-527-4118

August 6, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. LaHood:

We are writing to express the City of Glenwood's full support of the Sarpy/Mills Missouri River Crossing and the US-75 Freeway Improvements projects for the IDOT/NDOR TIGER grant program. These projects enhance transportation and economic development for our area. Planning has been ongoing since 1991 and this is a very important project for the City of Glenwood.

Economic Development will be greatly enhanced by providing new industrial, commercial and business opportunities. It will improve tourism, plus housing and population growth due to the improved roadways and a system that allows free flow traffic between US 75 and I-29/Hwy 34. Glenwood is a residential community and new industry is greatly needed. These projects will accomplish that goal, as well as bring more people to our community due to the ease of travel to and from the Omaha/Council Bluffs metropolitan area.

Due to the present state of the economy these projects are vital for the future of the City of Glenwood.

Again, we express our full support of these projects and thank you for considering the grant applications. Please contact us if you would like more information or to discuss the matter further.

Sincerely,

Dyle Downing
Mayor

Mary Jean Smith
City Administrator



City of Bellevue

Office of the Mayor

210 West Mission Avenue ♦ Bellevue, Nebraska 68005 ♦ (402) 293-3020

September 1, 2009

Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington DC 20590

RE: Nebraska Department of Roads/Iowa Department of Transportation –
Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Grant

Honorable Secretary:

On behalf of the citizens and elected officials of the City of Bellevue, Nebraska I wish to convey to you our support of the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Grant that has been applied for by the Nebraska Department of Roads and the Iowa Department of Transportation. These funds, if awarded, would be utilized for road improvements and construction of a new bridge across the Missouri River which will connect the states of Nebraska and Iowa.

The City of Bellevue, Nebraska, considers this a major part of our overall economic development plan for the growth of our city. The area where the new bridge and road will be located is currently a rural area but is within the city's zoning jurisdiction. It is anticipated that this project will open up entire new retail, commercial and light industrial area that is needed for our community. This project will provide the ability for not only over the road traffic to travel through our city but for our Iowa neighbors to be provided services of our community. The City of Bellevue has recently partnered with a private developer on a new economic development project that will begin to provide services next spring to a market that is nation wide. In determining that Bellevue was the appropriate location for this venture, a major consideration of the developer in making this decision was the fact that the combined project between Nebraska and Iowa would be an asset to customers who are traveling to this location. Based upon the anticipation of this project, the City has received a number of inquiries regarding the possibilities of industrial development. The City is very fortunate that this area where the new road and bridge will be located is one of three locations in our metropolitan area that has the access of two railroad lines. This, I am sure you are well aware, is a major asset to the location of many types of industrial businesses. This asset along with the new bridge and road makes this a very attractive area for economic development.

Honorable Ray LaHood

Page Two

September 1, 2009

In closing I wish to thank you for providing this opportunity to provide this information to you. The NDOR/IDOT Tiger Grant will be of great assistance to our community but will also provide economic development advancement in our metropolitan area also, which is the goal of all our communities to develop growth in an appropriate method. We are very excited about this project and hope that it receives approval. This project has provided the opportunity for communities from both Nebraska and Iowa to work together as well as both our state governments. The work that has been completed on this project has opened many avenues of communications between the parties and has resulted in what is a sound and well planned project.

Should you have any questions regarding the above or I may provide any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Gary Mixan", written in a cursive style.

Gary Mixan

Mayor

City of Bellevue, Nebraska



City of Plattsmouth

136 North 5th Street
Plattsmouth, Nebraska 68048-1922
(402) 296-2522



R. PAUL LAMBERT
MAYOR

ERVIN L. PORTIS
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

SANDRA J. MEYER
CITY CLERK

PEGGY WILSEY
TREASURER

August 10, 2010

Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

Plattsmouth supports the application for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER II Discretionary Grants) for the US 34 Missouri River Connector project. The entire greater Omaha metropolitan region will benefit by a more efficient transportation system with enhanced economic development potential once the project is complete.

Plattsmouth will derive direct benefit from this project. Currently, US 34 is routed through downtown Plattsmouth. When Connector is done, the present US 34 route will become a local road and responsibility. We will then be able to route heavy truck traffic away from our downtown, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a Historic District. Without heavy truck traffic, we can turn our efforts toward creating and maintaining a pristine, pedestrian-friendly environment.

On behalf of the City of Plattsmouth, I lend my support and thanks for those who submitted the TIGER II application.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Paul Lambert".

R. Paul Lambert
Mayor



Douglas County, NE
Bennington
Boys Town
Omaha
Omaha City Council
Ralston
Valley
Waterloo

Sarpy County, NE
Bellevue
Gretna
La Vista
Papillion
Springfield

Washington County, NE
Arlington
Blair
Fort Calhoun
Herman
Kennard
Washington

Mills County, IA
Emerson
Glenwood
Hastings
Henderson
Malvern
Pacific Junction
Silver City

Pottawattamie County, IA
Avoca
Carson
Carter Lake
Council Bluffs
Crescent
Hancock
Macedonia
McClelland
Minden
Neola
Oakland
Treyner
Underwood
Walnut

Bellevue Public Schools
Council Bluffs Airport
Authority
Council Bluffs Planning
Commission
Golden Hills Resource
Conservation & Development
District
Iowa Western Community
College
Metro Area Transit
Metropolitan Community
College
Metropolitan Utilities District
Millard Public Schools
Millard Suburban Fire District
Omaha Airport Authority
Omaha Housing Authority
Omaha Planning Board
Omaha Public Power District
Papillion / La Vista Public
Schools
Papio - Missouri River
Natural Resources District
Pony Creek Drainage
District
Ralston Public Schools
Valley Fire Protection
District #5

METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING AGENCY

2222 Cuming Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102-4328
Phone: (402) 444-6866 Fax: (402) 342-0949
Email: mapa@mapacog.org www.mapacog.org
In the MAPA Region: 1-800-827-6866



August 3, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary, US Dept. of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. LaHood:

I am writing to express the support of the Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA) for the Sarpy/Mills Missouri River Crossing and the US-75 Freeway Improvements projects for the TIGER grant program. As the metropolitan planning organization and council of governments for the Omaha-Council Bluffs region, we are charged with community development and transportation planning in the area. These projects have long been listed in our Long Range Transportation Plan as one of the region's key future projects. The Sarpy/Mills Missouri River Crossing is also listed in the MAPA Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (C.E.D.S.). The goals of these projects are directly in line with accomplishing our regional transportation and economic development goals.

The only existing bridge across the Missouri River is the Bellevue Bridge, a privately-owned toll bridge along State Highway 370. This bridge was built in 1952, has substandard lane widths, and is considered structurally deficient. The new Missouri River Crossing will provide a much needed alternative to the Bellevue Bridge, connecting Offutt Air Force Base and southern Sarpy County with Interstate 29, which serves as a vital link between the Omaha and Kansas City regions.

Furthermore, in a recent Beltway study conducted by MAPA, this section was identified to serve as part of a future Outer Loop Freeway facility that would eventually connect I-29 with I-80 across southern Sarpy County. This would be especially important in providing an alternate route for freight traffic taking the heavily used, transcontinental I-80 corridor that connects the west coast to the Chicago region and beyond to the east coast.

The Kennedy Freeway (US-75) currently stops being a freeway facility south of Capehart Road, where it changes to a lower-level facility with at-grade crossings. The proposed Freeway Improvements along this route are needed to complete the freeway between Plattsmouth and the Omaha metropolitan area and to serve the new Missouri River Crossing.

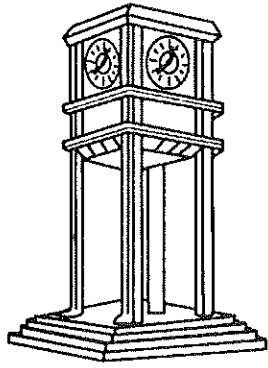
Sarpy County's population grew an astounding 23 percent between 2000 and 2008, which makes it the fastest growing county in the State of Nebraska. This extraordinary population growth and the presence of the strategically important Offutt Air Force Base need to be served with appropriate infrastructure to meet the area's transportation needs now and in the future. The TIGER program presents an excellent opportunity to fund this needed and worthy project, which will result in opening more doors to economic development and prosperity for the Omaha-Council Bluffs region that is sorely needed during this difficult economic period.

I express my full support for these projects. Please contact me with any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Mullen". The signature is fluid and stylized, with the first name "Paul" and last name "Mullen" clearly distinguishable.

Paul Mullen



Glenwood Area Chamber of Commerce
Glenwood/Mills County Economic Development Foundation, Inc.

32½ North Walnut Street • Glenwood, Iowa 51534

Phone (712) 527-3298 • Fax (712) 527-4349

Email: glenwoodia@qwestoffice.net

www.glenwoodia.com

August 6, 2009

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

RE: IDOT/NDOR TIGER Grant
Highway 34 Missouri River Bridge Project Mills County Iowa/Sarpy County Nebraska

Dear Secretary LaHood:

Please accept this letter of support of the IDOT/NDOR TIGER Grant application for the Highway 34 Missouri River Bridge Project, a regional, collaborative transportation project between the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) and the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) on behalf of the Glenwood (Iowa) Area Chamber of Commerce.

This project will create a transportation corridor extending U.S. Highway 34 west via a 4-lane highway, new Missouri River Bridge, and connectivity into Nebraska to U.S. Highway 73/75. Transportation is one of our greatest assets and we support this project to maintain this benefit to our region. Located 15 miles south of the nation's crossroads of I-80 and I-29, this project will create another means to connect southwest Iowa with the Omaha metropolitan area. The creation of this corridor will not only enhance the existing interstate system but we believe will have positive economic growth benefits for both southwest Iowa and the Omaha area.

Thank you for your consideration and please feel free to contact us if you need further information about the Glenwood area and southwest Iowa.

Sincerely,

Linda Washburn,
Executive Director
Glenwood Area Chamber of Commerce &
Glenwood/Mills County Econ. Dev. Found.

Sincerely,

Lori Jens,
President, Glenwood Area
Chamber of Commerce



August 18, 2009

Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing this letter in support of the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) and the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) joint application for the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) discretionary grants for the Sarpy/Mills Missouri River Crossing project.

Sarpy County Economic Development Corporation is a 501 (c) (6) non-profit membership corporation. Our mission is to grow and diversify Sarpy County through recruitment, expansion and development of industrial and service enterprises - creating new employment opportunities, capital investment and a broader tax base.

From a transportation perspective, the Sarpy/Mills Missouri River Crossing provides a new connection to Interstate 29 from eastern and southern Sarpy County and provides a future link to Interstate 80 via Platteview Road. This new connector will provide a safer and more efficient connection to I-29 than the two older and smaller bridges located in Bellevue and Plattsmouth. The elimination of truck traffic in Bellevue's downtown area (Old Towne) would be greatly reduced and would help generate foot traffic in the area for merchants. In addition, the opening of the new Cat Osterman Softball Village south of Offutt Air Force Base which will bring literally thousands of softball players and their families to the area will benefit from the reduction of traffic on Highway 370 and will provide more direct access to the complex via Highways 75 and 34.

This new connection will benefit those commuters who are traveling to and from Nebraska and Iowa as part of the metropolitan statistical area labor force. The State of Nebraska's largest employer, Offutt Air Force Base (>10,000 employees), will benefit by the location of this connector and new bridge since a significant number of employees live in Iowa. From a commodity perspective this new connector and bridge will greatly benefit the grain and animal producers by providing them a more direct route to their processors. In addition, these agricultural finished products and other manufactured goods will utilize this new connector and bridge to markets north and south to Canada and Mexico.



Page 2

From an economic development perspective, the new connector and bridge will open up over 3,000 acres of land for industrial developments, specifically rail-served sites which are in great demand. The Highway 34 corridor with its access to all major utilities and Highways 75 will become the major industrial complex in the Omaha metropolitan area providing jobs in light to heavy manufacturing businesses. In addition, the connection to Interstate 29 will open up this area to large warehouse/distribution facilities who want to distribute their products north and south via Interstate 29 and east and west via Interstate 80. Currently we are missing employment opportunities for Nebraska and Iowa residents because we cannot offer rail-served sites for major projects. An example of that is the flurry of renewable energy projects in wind and solar. These industries pay very competitive wages and have attractive benefit packages. This very significant transportation project will allow us to locate these job creation projects and provide employment opportunities in Sarpy County, thus reducing the percentage of Sarpy residents who commute to Douglas County (Omaha) for employment.

Thank you for your consideration and support of the Sarpy/Mills Missouri River Crossing project. This project would be a major catalyst for the development of the Highway 34 corridor in Sarpy County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Toby S. Churchill".

Toby S. Churchill, Executive Director
Sarpy County EDC

Cass County Nebraska Economic Development Council

Sept. 3, 2009

Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

Secretary LaHood:

The Cass County Nebraska Economic Development Council would like to provide our support to Nebraska Department of Road's (NDOR) TIGER Grant Application, regarding the Hwy 34 / I-29 Missouri River Connector project. Cass County Economic Development Council (CCNEDC) is part of a regional economic development team that has seen strong economic and employment growth in several communities and counties locally. Funding this request will immediately improve the transportation connectivity & improve job opportunities for the population in this multi-county MSA.

The growing population in both the southwest part of Iowa and the southeast part Nebraska (including Cass County) uses the roads in this project area. But expansion of job opportunities in neighboring communities means long, unconnected commutes that will be more fuel efficient with the proposed connector roads. We are proud of the Midwestern business growth that is occurring here. Many national & international companies are finding this Nebraska-Iowa location key to their central US growth plans. So this money will not be wasted on redundant, parallel routes, but will be used to efficiently grow the region, employment reach, and tax base.

Expansion from businesses in Transportation Logistics, Information Technology, Back-Office Service Centers, Renewable Energy and Retail facilities is occurring here today, while some of these industries are reducing operations in other parts of the US. This indicates that we will absolutely use these program dollars in a most efficient manner.

Transpiration access to jobs in the Omaha metropolitan area, from surrounding communities, as well as access for metropolitan area residents to connect to jobs in surrounding communities, has allowed economic growth in our area for the last two decades. We would like the opportunity in the near-term, to continue this growth.

The successful award of these TIGER Grant dollars would be extremely efficient use of federal program money, as the expansion of this portion of I-29 and Hwy 34 will connect to current expansion work on I-80 to the north (Council Bluffs to Omaha), and the planned widening of So. Hwy 75 from Platteview Rd. to Plattsmouth, Nebraska.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me directly at 402-978-7909.

Sincerely,



John Yochum
Cass County Nebraska Economic Development Council

cc: Tim Weander, Nebraska Dept. of Roads

1301 Harney Street
Omaha, NE 68102
402-978-7909

www.SelectGreaterOmaha.com
A Partner with Greater Omaha
Economic Development Partnership



August 10, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Missouri River Connector TIGER II Grant

Dear Mr. Secretary:

On behalf of the Greater Omaha Chamber, I am expressing our strong support for Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER II) Discretionary Grant funding for the US 34 Bridge Connector project in Nebraska and Iowa.

The Chamber has been a part of the broad coalition involved in getting this project approved and prioritized. It is at the point where it is ready for construction, and this project will provide both immediate and long term economic investment and job creation. The region served by the project, which includes Offutt Air Force Base, is experiencing notable growth, including commercial, industrial, and residential, but does lack the transportation infrastructure that will support the full potential of development in the region.

The Highway 34 project will contribute greatly to safety improvements, mitigation of congestion, and quality of life improvements for area residents, employers, and commuters, as well as providing the vital link, both interstate and intermodal (as the area has two major rail corridors) for what will be a remarkable dual-state regional economic development endeavor.

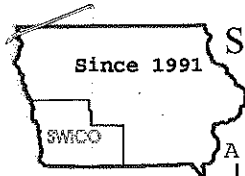
The Chamber's economic development efforts—new investment, job creation, and job retention—include placing a very high priority on the continued development of a safe and efficient transportation network, and the Highway 34 Bridge project is of high priority in this effort.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this application.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David G. Brown'.

David G. Brown
President and CEO
Greater Omaha Chamber



**Southwest Iowa
Coalition**

A Voice for Southwest Iowa

Bill Henderson, president
Lynn Adams, coordinator

PH: 712.623.5521
FX: 712.623.5526
www.swico.org

Directors

Ken Pangburn
Adams

Clarence Moshier
Adair

Keith Harlan
Cass

Russell Joyce
Cass

Kenner Baxter
Cass

Ruth Smith
Decatur

Margaret Johnson
Fremont

Twila Larsen
Fremont

Linda Washburn
Mills

Joe Blankenship
Mills

Steve Adams
Montgomery

George Maher
Montgomery

Dale McAllister
Page

Kurt Shaha
Ringgold

Dick Elliott
Ringgold

David Yamada
Shelby

Bill Henderson
Taylor

Adam Snodgrass
Union

August 3, 2009

Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20590

RE: IDOT/NDOR Tiger Grant
Hwy 34 Missouri River Bridge Project
Sarpy/Mills Missouri River Crossing

Dear Secretary LaHood,

We appreciate the opportunity to apply for funds from the IDOT/NDOR TIGER Grant application for the Highway 34 Missouri River Bridge Project which is being coordinated between the Iowa Department of Transportation (IDOT) and Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR).

The Southwest Iowa Coalition (SWICO) and Mills County Economic Development Foundation (MCEDF) have been working on and promoting this regional transportation project since 1991. The SWICO is a 16 county regional grass roots organization that works on common economic enhancement projects that will benefit all of S.W. Iowa. This can include transportation, tourism, rural water, housing and many other common projects.

The MCEDF is the local economic development organization that promotes economic development in Mills County and is a member of the SWICO.

Our organizations have worked very closely with the Cass and Sarpy county Nebraska Economic Development organizations, along with the IDOT and NDOR to complete this regional transportation project that will enhance economic development for both S.W. Iowa and Omaha/Bellevue metropolitan region.

The primary purpose of this project is to improve connectivity and fulfill transportation needs of the region by providing a safe and free-flowing connection across the Missouri River from U.S. 75 to I-29/Hwy 34. The improved facility will provide for traffic service to the major

employment center of Omaha/Bellevue and S.W. Iowa; serve as a direct connection to the interstate system; provide adequate capacity for good traffic service in areas where congestion now occurs; provide the entire corridor areas with a safer means of travel than presently exists; and provide convenient access to and from neighboring communities.

The project is based on the following needs:

- Substandard bridges –existing Bellevue & Plattsmouth toll bridges that do not meet current structural and functional design standards and have a limited life expectancy.
- Substandard roadway – an existing roadway between U.S. 75 and I-29/Hwy 34 that does not meet current standards because of inconsistent segment geometry and speed and inadequate operating capacity.
- System linkage – an existing roadway system that does not meet the regional transportation needs and allow free flow of traffic between U.S. 75 and I-29/Hwy 34.
- Compatibility with local land use – an existing roadway system that does not accommodate the planned growth in the Omaha/Bellevue metropolitan and S.W. Iowa region.

We believe, in S.W. Iowa, that the completion of this transportation project will provide a tremendous economic benefit for many of the communities along the Highway 34 corridor that runs from Glenwood east to Osceola. Highway 34 is a major rural state highway that is already experiencing 4-lane expansion in many of the communities along the corridor. We anticipate with the connection to the Omaha/Bellevue metropolitan area the traffic counts along Hwy 34 will be enhanced, requiring continued 4-lane expansion of the highway creating tremendous opportunities for economic development in communities along that corridor.

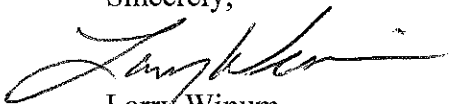
This project is scheduled to begin construction next year (2010). It is currently a high priority for both IDOT and NDOR. It is included in the IDOT's 5 year highway plan.

We know that with this application you are being provided with all the statistical data that has been assembled over the past 15 plus years illustrating the projected economic benefits to our region.

If the purpose of the TIGER Grant is to greatly enhance economic development, then we believe this project is highly qualified and should be given every consideration to receive funds from this grant to insure its completion. If necessary, we would be glad to come to Washington D.C. and make a formal presentation and answer any additional questions you may have concerning this project.

Thank you for your consideration and please contact us if we can provide you with additional information.

Sincerely,



Larry Winum,
SWICO Transportation Co-Chair
President, MCEDF
712-527-3157



Bill Henderson,
President, SWICO

August 3, 2009



Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Nebraska Trucking Association

www.nebtrucking.com

1701 K Street, P.O. Box 81010

Lincoln, NE 68501-1010

phone 402-476-8504

fax 402-476-0579

Dear Secretary LaHood,

I am very pleased to offer this letter of support for the Sarpy/Mills County NDOR/IDOT TIGER Grant project. As an organization that represents the trucking industry in Nebraska, which is home to over 11,500 trucking companies, I am very excited and supportive of the funding and completion of this project.

Nation's busiest trade pipeline

As you may know, Nebraska is and has been a center for Transportation, Distribution, Warehousing and Logistics projects in North America. Located on the busiest east-west coast trade pipeline, Interstate 80 carries the majority of all commercial traffic between San Francisco and New York. In addition our eastern border rests on one of the fastest growing north-south interstates serving the NAFTA corridor from Winnipeg CA to Omaha. With the current hours of service and high diesel prices, we are currently witnessing a phenomenon in which trucks originating freight from Winnipeg's new inland port status are now using the Omaha/Council Bluffs rest stops as their preferred locations for their scheduled overnight 10-hour rest period. This has of course increased congestion on the metro area's interstate system and caused an increasing shortage of safe and adequate parking places for commercial vehicles. In addition, our resourceful industry has discovered by traveling Interstate 29 from Winnipeg, through the Dakotas, into Iowa and then taking Interstate 80 from Omaha to York, Nebraska to continue their trip down US Hwy 81 south, they are able to make their trip to the ports of entry into Mexico 326 miles shorter, thus saving time and precious fuel expense.

Economic development opportunity for rural Iowa

Of particular interest to this project is the fact that currently this "through" north-south commercial truck traffic is forced to fight the metropolitan traffic and commercial east-west traffic along Interstate 80 in the Omaha/Council Bluffs corridor. This significantly increases the possibilities for delays and potential safety hazards resulting in productivity losses, as well as additional fuel usage and diesel emissions. **With the completion of the new Sarpy/Mills Missouri River Crossing, much of this "through" east/west, north/south commercial traffic would be diverted around the Omaha/Council Bluffs**

metro area into a growing, yet less populated and traveled area. In addition, with the prospect of an additional interstate exchange on Interstate 29 in Mills County Iowa, I'm confident that much needed commercially provided rest areas will follow in the form of truck stops that will include truck/tire repair, fueling and motel developments. This of course will provide job opportunities for this growing, yet rural area of Iowa. These commercial developments have also historically attracted other high wage, high demand positions in distribution and logistics centers.

America's logistics epicenter

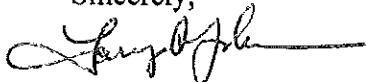
Currently, the Nebraska Department of Economic Development is very focused on branding our state as the "new" logistics center of North America. With our natural competitive advantage of being in the center of "everything", the new global supply chain is recognizing the many benefits of placing distribution and warehousing projects off of the congested coasts, into Nebraska with our added value of low congestion, a paid for road system and most importantly lower labor, land and lights (we have the advantage of low cost public power systems). Just recently, a small town, (Shelby, IA) 45 miles east of Omaha/Council Bluffs was able to attract the new Menard's (building materials) Distribution Center. Just down the road in Lincoln, Nebraska we were able to attract the new Tractor Supply (TSC) distribution center and MBA Poultry distribution center. In North Platte, we have a 1 million square feet Wal-Mart Distribution Center that produces 1100 truckloads (550 in and 550 full loads out) – a DAY. These jobs, combined with the increased truck traffic have and will continue to provide high wage, high demand employment opportunities if we are successful in getting these important infrastructure improvements like this, in our area.

Secretary LaHood, the funding and completion of this project is very important to the Omaha/Council Bluffs metro area for the following benefits it will provide:

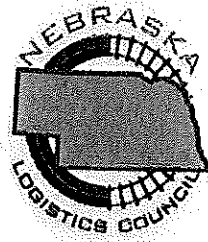
- Decreased congestion
- Improved productivity
- Highway safety
- Economic development.

It connects many important dots for less fuel consumption and less diesel emissions by creating an even shorter route for truck traffic that will truly help to fuel a re-energized economy and our area's importance in our global economy. Thank you in advance for your consideration and support of this valuable proposal.

Sincerely,



Larry A. Johnson
President
Nebraska Trucking Association



August 2, 2009

Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood,

As the President of the Nebraska Logistics Council, I and our organization represent almost 1000 different companies from across the state that rely on the efficiency and safety of Nebraska's interstate and highway systems to receive and send our commerce across the world. Our membership ranges from rail and truck carriers to manufacturers, distributors and warehousemen.

It gives me great pleasure to give "our" support for the various infrastructure improvement grant requests made available by President Obama's TIGER grant project.

While each individual project holds special value to our many members across the state as a whole, I have reviewed each grant request and feel that each project as it relates to the safe and efficient movement of commercial goods that originate, terminate or is moving through our state is important. With the rapidly changing and growing world economy, Nebraska's importance as a logistics center of North American cannot be ignored. Based in the "logistics" center of North America, Nebraska has the additional benefits of lower labor, land and power so important in distribution and warehousing projects. Each one of these projects will:

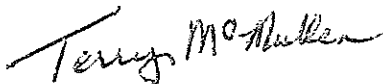
1. Improve the efficiency and safety of high volume traffic corridors.
2. Create new land development in or around the projects for possible new distribution and warehousing development projects.
3. Allow for continued growth of efficient freight traffic along Interstate 80 east and west or Interstate 29 north and south.

www.nebraskalogisticscouncil.com

One final note, as a rural state with a low population density to support the growing "through" traffic traveling our state, Nebraska has always been a good steward of our federal and state highway dollars. We have always lived within our means and not diverted highway funds to other unrelated projects like building prisons or sports stadiums. We are very proud to say that our highways have been built on a "pay as you go" basis, without bonding or the need to toll. I can assure you that if we are successful in competing for these grants, this will not change. Our state government and citizens will make the best of this opportunity and provide a high rate of return for the dollars invested in our state and region.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our request!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terry McMullen".

Terry McMullen
Nebraska Logistics Council



August 14, 2009

Martin T. Carmody, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer
Bellevue Medical Center
3604 Twin Creek Drive, Suite 109
Bellevue, NE 68123

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
US Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Mr. LaHood,

I am writing to express support for the Sarpy/Mills Missouri River Crossing project for the TIGER grant program. As you know, Sarpy County is the fastest growing county in Nebraska, and Bellevue, NE is the future location of Bellevue Medical Center, set to open in 2010.

Bellevue Medical Center is located at the intersection of Highway 370 and 25th Street. This full-service, community hospital will provide access to quality healthcare for Bellevue and the surrounding communities in Sarpy, Cass, and Mills Counties of Nebraska and Iowa. In addition, this state of the art healthcare facility will provide medical services to the military community of Offutt Air Force Base.

Bellevue Medical Center's services will include emergency care; labor and delivery care; diagnostic and therapeutic services and surgical services supported by 100 private, inpatient beds.

The Sarpy/Mills Missouri River Crossing project would benefit people who live in Southwest Iowa by improving access to Bellevue Medical Center, which has a strong affiliation with The Nebraska Medical Center, a regional academic medical center known for its' expertise in delivering quality healthcare. Finally, Bellevue Medical Center will employ over 500 healthcare professionals, some of which will live in neighboring Mills County, IA.

The new Missouri River Crossing is recognized as a necessary improvement over the only bridge in the area that was built in 1952. A modern, quality bridge is needed to meet the infrastructure needs of the surrounding communities mentioned above.

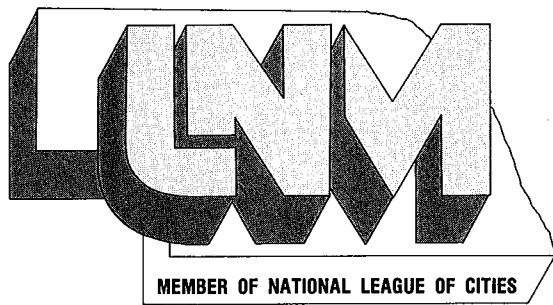
Thank you in advance for your support of the Missouri River Crossing project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin T. Carmody".

Martin T. Carmody, FACHE
Chief Executive Officer

Conserve. Print or Copy this document only if needed.



August 6, 2010

Honorable Ray LaHood, Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Honorable LaHood:

The League of Nebraska Municipalities enthusiastically supports the project applications put forward by the Department of Roads for the US 34 Missouri River Connector Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Grants. These competitive grants are an important part of the Recovery Act, and Nebraska's transportation needs merit consideration in this grant program.

Receipt of a grant towards any one of these projects will enhance Nebraska's economy and improve our overall transportation system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'L. Lynn Rex'.

L. Lynn Rex
Executive Director